Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TUNIS 00811 071232Z

20

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 IGA-01 /072 W

----- 066949

O P 071200Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8172

INFO COMSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

COMSCMED NAPLES IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN IMMEDIATE

CDRAMC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL TUNIS 0811

E.O. 11652

TAGS: MILI, TS, TU

SUBJECT: PROPOSED OFFLOADING MAP CARGO FOR TURKEY

AT TUNIS

REF: COMSC MESSAGE 062051Z FEB75

- 1. REFTEL APPEARS ASSUME THAT ALL NECESSARY CLEARANCES HAVE BEEN OBTAINED TO PERMIT DISCHARGE O/A 12 FEB AT PORT OF TUNIS OF 82 MT MAP GENERAL CARGO DESTINED FOR TURKEY.
- 2. DISCHARGE OF SUCH CARGO HERE, HOWEVER, WOULD ALMOST INEVITABLY RAISE DELICATE POLITICAL PROBLEM. OFFLOADING COULD NOT RPT NOT TAKE PLACE WITHOUT APPROVAL GOT, AND WE FRANKLY DOUBT THAT GOT WILL WILLINGLY AGREE. GOT IS MOST UNLIKELY TO WANT TO PLACE ITSELF IN MIDDLE OF WHAT IT WILL CERTAINLY VIEW AS PROBLEM BETWEEN U.S. AND TURKEY, BOTH OF WHOM ARE ITS GOOD FRIENDS.

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3. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT WE

SHOULD PUT TUNISIA INTO THIS POTENTIALLY AWKWARD SITUATION AND URGE THAT SOME OTHER ALTERNATIVE BE FOUND FOR OFFLOADING CARGO IN QUESTION. ACCORDINGLY, WE DO NOT RPT NOT PROPOSE RAISING MATTER WITH TUNISIANS UNLESS INSTRUCTED DO SO BY DEPT.

- 4. WE NOTE FROM REFTEL, INCIDENTALLY, THAT THERE APPEARS BE ASSUMPTION THAT THIS EMBASSY CAN PROVIDE SUFFICIENT STORAGE SPACE UNDER USG CONTROL FOR CARGO IN QUESTION. AS DEPT AWARE, SUCH IS NOT RPT NOT THE CASE. EMBASSY HAS NO AREA THAT COULD RECEIVE AND STORE TONNAGE IN AMOUNT SPECIFIED (OR ANYTHING EVEN APPROXIMATING IT) EVEN IF OFFLOADING WERE APPROVED BY TUNISIANS. STORED MATERIAL WOULD THEREFORE BE UNDER CONTROL TUNISIANS. EVEN IN LATTER CASE, STORAGE FACILITIES HERE ARE AT THE MOMENT LIMITED.
- 5. IF THERE ABSOLUTELY NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE, WE WILL OF COURSE RAISE MATTER WITH TUNISIANS. WE CAUTION, HOWEVER, THAT TIME IS SHORT, AND A WEEK-END IS COMING UP DURING WHICH TUNISIANS ARE MOST UNLIKELY TO MAKE A DECISION ON AS TOUCHY A PROBLEM AS THIS. SEELYE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: STORAGE, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, CARGO

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

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Subject: PROPOSED OFFLOADING MAP CARGO FOR TURKEY AT TUNIS TAGS: MILI, TS, TU
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006